

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

November 22, 2021

10.30 AM to 2:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Virtual Meeting Notice

*Currently, all board meetings will be held virtually during the declared public emergency.
Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:*

This meeting was available by Web

Board of Social Work - Open Session

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m98cde39750bd20eaace19ba67f6a4693>

This meeting was available by Phone

Call in Number: 1-650-479-3208 Call-in number (US/Canada)

Access Code: 478 300 028

BOSW Mission Statement:

"To provide oversight to licensed professionals and ensure the health and safety of citizens and visitors in the District of Columbia through the provision of health care services."

OPEN SESSION November 2021

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	VELVA SPRIGGS, LISW, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	WANDA WHEELER, LICSW, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	MARJAN SHALLAL, LGSW, BOARD MEMBER	Absent
	SELERYA MOORE, CONSUMER MEMBER	Present
STAFF:		
	LaTRICE HERNDON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	MAVIS AZARIAH ARMATTOE- HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	DEBBIE MOSS, INVESTIGATOR	Present
	JOANNE DROZDOSKI, ESQ.- ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
	GREGORY SCURLOCK, COMPLIANCE OFFICER	Absent
VISITORS:		
	MARGOT ARONSON, LICSW, GWSCSW	
	STEVE SZOPA, GWSCSW	
	ADELE NATTER, GWSCSW	
	KAREN GUILLORY, LICSW	
	TAWANA LEE	
	ERICA LOADMAN, DC PMP PROGRAM	
	AYANA COLEMAN, DACS PROGRAM	

OPEN SESSION MINUTES November 22, 2021

	<p><u>Roll Call</u> Meeting called to order at 10:53AM and a quorum was established.</p>	VS
OS-1122-01	<p><u>Acceptance of the Open Session Agenda</u> <u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to accept the November 22, 2021 Open Session Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Wanda Wheeler. <u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
OS-1122-02	<p><u>Executive Director's Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC Health has begun to issue temporary licenses for 90 days for applicants who have pending application and submit a National Practitioner self-query report, print out of licensure verifications and COVID-19 Vaccination status and the temp licenses will be approved within 24-48 hours of receipt of negative criminal background check reports. This is to help ease the backlog of applications. • The waiver of licensure for out of state licensees in good standing to be able to practice via telehealth to existing clients or to practice at a DC Health Care facility has been extended by DC Council until August 2022 however these licensees are expected to submit an application to DC Health by 3/31/2022. • Licensure Census: Total of 5073 active Social Workers: 1,323 LGSW, 3730 LICSW, 42 LISW, and 51 LSWA. 	
OS-1122-03	<p><u>Chairperson's Report:</u> Ms. Spriggs reported that since the last Board meeting Board Members and Staff have two Association of Social Work Board (ASWB) Meetings: Board Member Exchange and Administrators Meetings and the ASWB Delegate Assembly - all virtual. She reported that as the delegate for the ASWB Delegate Assembly, 3 items were noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Social Work Exam: ASWB stated firmly that the exam is fair, valid, reliable, and defensible for reasons related to ample time provided to complete the exam, the fact that there are not many hard nor easy questions, that the questions are authored by experienced social workers who work to ensure avoidance of bias, and that the testing 	VS

	<p>instrument is scientifically valid. Nevertheless, the ASWB Board has now voted to release performance data to further analyze the pass/failure rates and trends, as well as the methods for gathering and synthesizing data. Beginning in January 2022, ASWB will be developing exam resources for educators, an enhanced wraparound guide for test takers, a practice test, and educator training offerings. They will be reaching out to social work organizations like NASW, CSWE, and others, to garner input into discussions about aiding Black, Brown, and Second Language applicants to improve their exam pass rates.</p> <p>2. The Public Protection Database: The practice of sanctioning social workers dates back to 1991. This database is designed to protect the public from incompetent, unethical, and irresponsible practitioner behavior. There is authorization to share this data with the US Federal Government's National Practitioner Database.</p> <p>3. The last take away was that If ever we did so to protect the public, Boards of Social Work cannot tie licensure to past criminal or irresponsible conduct of a licensed practitioner that is not related directly to licensure. As we review cases brought before us to examine and investigate practice behavior alleged to be incompetent, that is, a violation of the Social Work Code of Ethics, we must do so in relationship to the practice and not to experiences outside of practice. We have discussed this rule previously on this Board as our attorneys have already made this very clear to us.</p>	
OS-1122-04	<p><u>Boards Attorney's Report:</u></p> <p>Ms. Drozdowski reported that as of 5am today the indoors mask mandate in DC has been lifted with certain exceptions: schools, childcare facilities, congregate facilities (including nursing homes, shelters, dormitories, and correctional facilities), health care facilities, libraries and public transport (including ride share vehicles).</p>	
OS-1122-05	<p><u>Open Session Minutes</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u></p> <p>Consideration of the Open Session Minutes from the October 25,</p>	

	<p>2021 meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Selerya Moore to approve the October 2021 Open Session Minutes. Seconded by Ms. Wanda Wheeler.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1122-06	<p><u>Open Session Consent Agenda</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Consideration of the applications approved for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to approve the Open Session Consent Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously</p>	
OS-1122-07	<p><u>DACS Introductory Presentation</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To learn more about this program</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Introducing the District Addition Consultation Service (DACS)-a free service which aims to help DC Providers connect to local substance use disorder resources, patient assistance programs, referrals and more.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> No motions were made on this Agenda item since it was an informational presentation.</p>	

OS-1122-08	<p><u>Motion to Close</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted by DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u> Upon conclusion of the open session meeting pursuant to the DC Official Code 2-575(b) and for the purposes set forth therein, the Board will move into the closed executive session portion of the meeting to consult with the Board attorney, discuss disciplinary matters and hear reports concerning violations of the law or regulations.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion made by Ms. Wanda Wheeler to close the Open Session portion of the meeting at 10:53AM. Seconded by Ms. Selerya Moore.</p> <p><u>Vote:</u> Ms. Velva Spriggs, Ms. Selerya Moore and Ms. Wanda Wheeler voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<p><u>Open Session Board FYI only</u></p>	
OS-1122-09	<p><u>Ethical Concerns with DC Sexual Assault Victim's Rights Amendment Act of 2019</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u> Discuss the potential impact the law will have on licensees.</p> <p><u>Background:</u> The Board received an email from Ms. Sherrod regarding the DC law on Teen advocates. The DC Sexual Assault Victims' Rights Amendment Act of 2019 included the right to an advocate for 13 to 17-year-old youth in DC who have experienced sexual assault. For youth in this age range who were specifically impacted by peer-on-peer or stranger assault, the right to an advocate comes with an exemption to mandated reporting. Licensee would like</p>	

	the Board's guidance since it had potential ethical implications on social workers.	
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The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2022.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.